RESOLUTION NO.: 10-10

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING FLORIDA SENATE BILL 318, WHICH PROPOSES AMENDING SECTION 379.372, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO PROHIBIT ANY PERSON FROM POSSESSING, IMPORTING, SELLING, TRADING, OR BREEDING CERTAIN SPECIFIED REPTILE SPECIES, WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS APPLICABLE TO REPTILES FOR WHICH THE OWNER HOLDS A PERMIT ISSUED BEFORE A SPECIFIED DATE.

WHEREAS, Florida Statutes §379.372 permits the capture, keeping, possessing, transporting, or exhibiting of venomous reptiles or reptiles of concern after first obtaining a special permit or license from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC); and

WHEREAS, in response to the recent death of a two-year-old Florida girl due to strangulation by a "pet" Burmese Python, Florida Senate Bill 318 proposes amending Florida Statutes §379.372 to prohibit any person from possessing, importing, selling, trading, or breeding certain specified reptile species, with certain exceptions applicable to reptiles for which the owner holds a permit issued before a specified date; and

WHEREAS, Florida Senate Bill 318 would help avoid tragic, senseless deaths and keep Florida residents safe from harm by establishing a ban on venomous reptiles or reptiles of concern; and

WHEREAS, the release of venomous reptiles into the Everglades and other outlying areas has jeopardized the fragile ecological system of the Everglades and without an importation ban and the capture and removal of such venomous reptiles, the fragile and uniquely diverse ecological system of the Everglades will be destroyed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida hereby pledge their support for Florida Senate Bill 318, which would prohibit any person from possessing, importing, selling, trading, or breeding certain specified reptile species,

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with certain exceptions applicable to reptiles for which the owner holds a permit issued before a specified date.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of January , 2010.

Carlos Hernandez
Council President

Approved on the 7 day of January , 2010

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

Mayor Julio Robaina

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:

William M. Grodnick City Attorney

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Resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote with Councilmembers, Caragol, Casals-Muñoz, Cue, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez, and Yedra voting "Yes".